GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7543
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2002
PROCUREMENT OF MASKS
BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to purchase three lakh thirty four thousand gas masks and their spare-parts at the cost amounting to Rs. 127 crore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said items are being indigenously produced or would be imported;

(d) whether the supply order has been placed before the DRDO for purchasing the said items;

(e) if so, the date by when the DRDO has started to discharge the duty of purchasing items instead of conducting research; and

(f) the need of setting up a Procurement Board if the DRDO has to discharge the duty of purchasing items?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (f): An order for Nuclear Biological and Chemical (NBC) defence equipment comprising of various items to provide protection to troops against non-persistent chemical agents has been placed on DRDO.

These items are being manufactured indigenously as the technological know-how for the NBC items developed by the DRDO has been transferred by it to its industry partners. DRDO has been entrusted with this order so that quality assurance and testing of the equipment is ensured.